



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 21 June 2012**

**11615/12**

**CORDROGUE 48**

**OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

of:	Meeting of the Horizontal Working Party on Drugs
on:	22 May 2012
Subject:	Summary of discussions

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda set out in document CM 3026/12 was approved with addition of the following points under AOB:

- EU strategy for Central Asia;
- Meeting of the Dublin Group;
- International drugs conference in Lima, Peru;
- Joint statement on humane and balanced drug policy;
- National Drugs Coordinators' meeting.

**2. Draft Council Conclusions on the new EU drugs strategy**

The meeting discussed the above-mentioned Council Conclusions contained in doc. 9986 /12 CORDROGUE 30. Some delegations requested an inclusion of prevention of the abuse of prescription drugs and a few delegations noticed that the diversion of precursors was not mentioned in the text.

One delegation noted that the role of internet in distribution of new psychoactive substances should be indicated in the Conclusions. The Presidency informed the delegates that a revised version of the document would be issued soon after the meeting to be endorsed by a silence procedure.

### **3. Annual dialogue on drug-related research**

A representative of the COM gave an overview of the 7th Research Framework Programme, explaining that drug related issues could be covered under 5 out of 10 themes of the Programme. She presented the FIDUCIA and ERANID projects funded under the Programme, as well as the developments within the ALICE RAP project. The FIDUCIA project will test an innovative model of “trust-based” justice policies (rather than based on deterrence) on four case studies of “European” crimes, including drug trafficking while ERANID will develop and strengthen the coordination of public research programmes carried out at national or regional level in the field of drug demand and supply reduction. A representative of the ERANID project elaborated more on their work, topics of interest for research and the planned timetable of activities. He explained that the EU provided 2 million euro for developing cooperation between the partners and that partners provided funding for joint calls. Some delegations expressed their interest in joining the ERANID project.

A representative of the COM presented Horizon 2020 programme, the successor of the 7th Framework Programme, which should have 80 billion euro available for research and innovation funding. She explained that the three priorities of the programme was excellent science, industrial leadership and societal challenges. The speaker informed the meeting that the negotiations on the proposal were still ongoing and that the legislative acts on Horizon 2020 could be adopted by the Parliament and the Council in mid 2013, therefore the programme could be started and the first calls could be launched at the beginning of 2014.

A representative of the EMCDDA presented a reflection note from the EMCDDA’s Scientific Committee on drug-related research priorities for the 2014-2020 financial framework, contained in doc. DS 1359/12. He informed the meeting that a new EMCDDA thematic paper on drug-related research had just been published, giving an overview of recent developments and current challenges and that the EMCDDA’s Scientific Committee was committed to developing a Research Priority Framework, which could be used for identifying research gaps and suggesting research priorities.

#### **4. Report on the EU expert dialogue on drugs with Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**

The Chair of the dialogues on drugs reported on the above-mentioned meeting held on 19 April 2012 (see doc. 9987/12 CORDROGUE 31 COEST 154).

#### **5. Preparation for the EU-CELAC Technical Committee meeting**

The Chair of the dialogues on drugs presented the agenda of the above-mentioned meeting, to be held on 22 May 2012, contained in doc. CM 2920/12 + COR1 and encouraged the delegations to participate actively in the EU-CELAC High Level meeting to be held in Brussels on 4-5 June 2012.

#### **6. Preparation for the EU-USA dialogue on drugs**

The Chair of the dialogues on drugs presented the agenda of the above-mentioned meeting to be held on 23 May 2012, contained in doc. CM 2922/12, explaining that for the first time the thematic debates had been introduced in the agenda of the meeting with the US.

#### **7. Information concerning the proceedings of other EU bodies**

The Presidency informed the delegates about the state of play concerning drug related funding foreseen for the next financial period, reminding that the Presidency decided to remove drugs from the Justice programme and to address all drug demand reduction issues in the Health for Growth programme and drug supply reduction issues within the Internal Security Fund. He informed the meeting that the Justice programme was on the agenda of the forthcoming COREPER meeting with a view to reaching a partial general approach excluding drugs. Therefore once the drug issues are dealt with under Health for Growth programme and Internal Security Fund, the Presidency will come back to the Justice programme. However, the Chair emphasised that there were limits as to which issues could be covered under the Justice programme.

A representative of the COM informed the meeting that the COM was still keeping their original position to have the drug issues addressed in the Justice programme, as it was a successor of the Drug Prevention and Information Programme and as this programme could offer more complex funding for drug prevention than the Health for Growth programme.

She emphasised that there was a risk that drug demand reduction issues would not be properly covered if they were excluded from the Justice programme.

A number of delegations once again expressed their doubts about the exclusion of drug issues from the Justice programme, being worried about striking the balance in drugs related funding and guaranteeing funding for horizontal aspects of the drugs problem. In response to a question from delegations concerning moving the drug related funds from the Justice programme, the Presidency explained that the issue of specific amounts of money had not yet been addressed.

The Presidency encouraged the HDG delegations to coordinate nationally with their representatives in the working groups dealing with financial programmes.

## **8. Presentation of the work programme of the incoming CY Presidency**

The incoming CY Presidency presented their work programme, explaining that the main task of their Presidency would be the adoption of the new EU drugs strategy, and gave an overview of the timetable of the meetings.

A representative of the COM welcomed the initiative to organise an expert dialogue on drugs with Lebanon and Morocco, as it allows to focus on Southern EU neighbours.

## **9. AOB**

### **- *Conference on drug supply indicators***

A representative of the COM informed the meeting about the second European conference on drug supply indicators to be organised by the COM and EMCDDA on 22-23 November 2012 in Lisbon.

### **- *EU strategy for Central Asia***

The DE delegation informed the meeting about the Progress Report on the implementation of the EU strategy for Central Asia and the draft Council conclusions on Central Asia which are being discussed in the Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia

- ***Meeting of the Dublin Group***

The FR delegation informed the meeting about the forthcoming meeting of the Dublin Group to be held on 24 May 2012 and encouraged delegations to participate in it.

- ***International drugs conference in Lima, Peru***

The Presidency informed the meeting about the preparations for the above-mentioned conference to be held on 25-26 June 2012, including about the participation of different Member States and the preparation of the draft statement, which would be delivered during the conference by the Presidency on behalf of all the delegations.

- ***Joint statement on humane and balanced drug policy***

The SE delegation informed the delegates about a drug related meeting held in Stockholm on 20 May 2012 and distributed a joint statement "For a humane and balanced drug policy", signed by a few EU Member States, Russia and US during this meeting and invited other Member States also to sign the document.

- ***National Drugs Coordinators' meeting***

The Presidency informed about the preparations for the above-mentioned meeting to be held in Copenhagen on 14-15 June 2012, explaining that the agenda of the meeting would be issued soon and that two major topics of the meeting would be co-morbidity and drug related deaths.

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